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ROCKY FLATS PLANT **EMD OPERATING** PROCEDURES MANUAL Manual No.: Procedure No.: 5-21000-OPS-SW

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SITE DESCRIPTION

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2.0 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This standard operating procedure (SOP) describes procedures to be used in site description of surface water and sediment data collection sites at the Rocky Flats Plant (RFP). Site description is being performed to obtain uniform identification and to provide background site descriptions for all surface water and sediment stations at the RFP.

Identification of these sites will be based on visual inspection of the sites and areas in the near vicinity of the sites. In addition, certain dimensions of surface water bodies will be determined by measurement.

All sampling stations, regardless of whether they are currently being sampled, will be described. The frequency of site description will be determined by EG&G personnel.

3.0 RESPONSIBILITIES AND QUALIFICATIONS

Personnel performing site descriptions will be geologists, hydrologists, engineers, or field technicians with an appropriate amount of applicable field experience or on-the-job training under supervision of another qualified person.

4.0 REFERENCES

4.1 SOURCE REFERENCES

The following is a reference reviewed prior to the writing of this procedure:

Davis, Richard A. <u>Depositional Systems</u>, A Genetic Approach to Sedimentary Geology. Prentice-Hall, Inc. Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey. 07632. 1983

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4.2 **INTERNAL REFERENCES**

A related SOP cross-referenced by this SOP is:

SOP FO.10, Receiving, Labeling, and Handling Environmental Materials Containers

5.0 **METHODS**

EQUIPMENT 5.1

Equipment used in the collection of site description information will include but is not limited to the following:

- Steel tape measure
- Rock color chart
- Particle size and roundness chart
- Communications radio
- Site description forms
- Hand lens
- Boot covers and gloves
- Trash bags
- Clipboard
- Pen
- Camera (optional-EG&G may supply photographer and camera)

Check to be sure that each of these items is loaded into the field vehicle before proceeding to the sample sites.

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5.2 PROCEDURES

Proceed to the data collection site. Carry a site description form, pen, clipboard, tape measure, and color and particle size charts.

Fill in the date, crew members, contractor, and location on the site description form. Note the program area (from following list) and the operating unit, if known.

Background

Landfill

• Perimeter Security Zone

West Spray Field

Walnut Creek

881 Hillside

Woman Creek

Central Avenue

Americium Zone

Mound Area

• Interceptor Ditch

Visually inspect the sample site in order to assess each condition listed on the site description form.

Record the information on the form.

Using the steel tape, measure the dimensions of the water body and record the dimensions to the nearest foot. Note any sample sites which may be appropriate for spring box installation. Seeps and springs are suited for this purpose.

5.2.1 Describing Sediments

Describe sediments (bed materials) in terms of lithology, particle size, color, textural maturity (sorting, roundness), staining, and presence of organic material. The following descriptive aids should be used for this purpose:

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Particle size and roundness chart

Rock color chart

Textural maturity is a measure of the energy of the depositional environment which caused the deposition of sediments. It is a function of clay content, sorting, and the angularity of sediment grains.

Sorting is a measure of the spread of the distribution of particle sizes found in a sediment deposit. For example, a sample of bed material which contains various amounts of clay, silt, sand, and cobbles would be considered a poorly sorted sediment because of the wide spread of particle sizes. A homogeneous sand would be considered very well sorted.

Sediment grains display varying degrees of roundness ranging from very angular to very well rounded. This property can be assessed both visually and by touch. Use the roundness chart provided to make objective comparisons to determine this property for sediments at each site.

5.2.2 Describing Surrounding Areas

Visually inspect soils in the area, noting the areal extent and color of the soils. If the thickness of soil layers is apparent, make a note of it. Note the presence and lithology of any rock outcrops in the area. Note the predominant particle size for sediment found in the area. Use the hand lens to obtain visual lithological information. Do not, however, break up any rock material for this (or any other) purpose.

Qualitative side slope conditions for streams should be described as well as the regional slope direction.

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Visually inspect the area for vegetation and describe the relative abundance and type of plants present, if known.

5.2.3 Site Photographs

Site photographs will be taken at each site. EG&G personnel will be responsible for providing a camera and for assigning a photographer to complete this task. The photographs will accompany site description forms in the site description report.

6.0 PERSONNEL DECONTAMINATION

Personnel performing site description activities will wear disposable gloves and boot covers. These items will be discarded in trash bags upon completion of activities at each site. New gloves and boot covers will be required for each site. Trash will be handled as potentially contaminated environmental solids in accordance with SOP FO.10, Receiving, Labeling, and Handling Environmental Materials Containers.

Personnel will not wade into water bodies during the site description activities.

7.0 QUALITY ASSURANCE/QUALITY CONTROL

Quality assurance (QA) and quality control (QC) for site description at the RFP will consist of performing the descriptions twice, and verifying the correctness of entries on typewritten final versions of the site description forms.

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8.0 DOCUMENTATION

All information required by this SOP will be documented on the Site Description form found in this section. The forms will be accompanied by location maps and photographs of each site.

SURFACE WATER AND SEDIMENT SAMPLING SITES

		Contractor
SW Site	SED Site	Reviewed By:
Northing	Easting	Photograph Number(s), bearing
Program Area _	Operating Unit	Other
Weather Condition	ons	
SURFACE WAT	ER	
Type of Water R	adv (ditch nand seen st	tream, pipe, other)
Physical location	(relationship to nearby to	ributaries)
Width of Water	Rody Dent	th Length
Water Clarity (cl	ear cloudy tubid other)	th Length Discharge (Q, in cfs)
Velocity (flood st	tage fast moderate slow	stagnant dry)
Are flow rate and	d clarity seasonal or influ	y, stagnant, dry)enced by a storm event?
		Why?
SEDIMENTS		
Predominant Bed	l Materials Particle Size ((clay, silt, sand, gravel, boulders)
Bed Material Co	lor Sorti	ing Roundness
Iron. Manganese	or Other Staining	
Amount of Organ	nic Material in Sediments	S
_		
VEGETATION A	ASSOCIATED WITH SAI	MPLING SITE
		nt, moderate, sparse, none)
		se, none)
		ne)
Other Aquatic Pl	lants: (type is known, or o	description)
CUDDOUNDING	G AREA/SETTING	
SURROUNDING	AREA/SEITING	
Geologic Unit(s)		
Soil Present (abu	indant, moderate, sparse)	Soil Color
		obbles, Pebbles, Sand
Rock Type(s)		Rock color
Side Slope Condi	itions: (steep, moderate, l	Rock colorlow, flat ground)
Direction of Slop	e	
		sparse, none)
Type if known, o	r description:	
Other Comments	S	